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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: Hoch and Dartois

JAN 1 4 2004

Application No.:

09/557,796

Examiner: K. Lacourciere

Group Art Unit: 1635

Confirmation No:

8950

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Sir:

Pursuant to the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith (in view of the Advisory Action mailed October 24, 2003), please consider the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.